

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

In The Specification

Kindly delete the last sentence of paragraph [0034] of the Specification, as published on December 16, 2004, bearing publication number 20040254774A1, as indicated in the *marked up* version of paragraph [0034] shown below.

[0034] The tertiary structure of a protein may contain a surface loop. A surface loop is a continuous length of polypeptide chain whose constituent amino acids are in neither an alpha helical conformation nor in a beta sheet conformation, and can contact at least five water molecules, as determined by the DSSP computer program of Wolfgang Kabsch and Chris Sander. The DSSP, a program which is well known in the art, defines secondary structure, geometrical features and solvent exposure of proteins, given atomic coordinates in Protein Data Bank format, which is also well known in the art. (W. Kabsch & C. Sander, "Dictionary of protein secondary structure: pattern recognition of hydrogen-bonded and geometrical figures", Biopolymers 22, 2577-2637. (1983); See also, Centre for Molecular and Biomolecular Informatics, University of Nijmegen, Toernooiveld 1, P.O. Box 9010, 6500 GL Nijmegen, +31 (0)24 3653391, postmaster@cmbi.kun.nl, <http://www.cmbi.kun.nl/gv/dssp/>)

An *unmarked* version of the foregoing paragraph appears in Appendix B hereto.